



CITY COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 8, 2005

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: RESTROOM "EQUITY" TO BECOME LAW

Yesterday, the Honolulu City Council unanimously passed a "potty parity" law for Oahu. Bill 56, FD1 (2005), introduced by Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu), calls for public restrooms at event facilities such as theaters, stadiums and concert halls, to allocate twice as many toilets for women's restrooms as men's restrooms.

"Ensuring women's restrooms are twice as big as men's restrooms at all spectator event facilities in the City is a small, but important, step toward improving to the quality of life for Oahu residents. I am pleased that my colleagues on the City Council and Mayor Hannemann's administration worked with me to make this sensible 'restroom equity' measure a reality. You don't have to be a woman to understand the problem of long lines at women's restrooms," stated Councilmember Djou.

Councilmember Djou's bill is similar to legislation that was recently enacted into law by New York City and based on legislation crafted by the International Codes Council, the leading non-profit organization that issues the model municipal building code standards. The bill requires any new or renovation of a Class A event facility, as defined by the Honolulu Building Code, to allocate twice as many toilets for female restrooms as for male restrooms. The new law will take effect immediately upon signature by the mayor.

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